

Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SY-04 SR-02 ORM-01 SCA-01 VO-03 EB-07 TRSE-00

SAM-01 /095 W

----- 033937

R 251028Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9500

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 3447

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, CB, FR

SUBJECT: NEW KHMER EXIT PERMIT PROCEDURES CHALLENGED BY FRENCH
EMBASSY

REF: PHNOM PENH 2607 (NOTAL)

1. REFTTEL DESCRIBED NEW GREATLY INCREASED SCHEDULE OF FEES FOR
SECURING OF EXIT PERMITS BY KHMER AND FOREIGN RESIDENTS IN CAM-
BODIA. FOR THE LATTER CATEGORY, THE FEES HAVE BEEN FIXED AT
DOUBLE THOSE FOR NATIVE-BORN KHMER; WE UNDERSTAND THIS IS
DIRECTED PRIMARILY AT CHINESE AND VIETNAMESE RESIDENT IN CAM-
BODIA WHO DO NOT HAVE KHMER CITIZENSHIP.

2. HOWEVER, THE NEW FEES APPLY TO OTHER FOREIGN RESIDENTS AS
WELL, AND THE FRENCH HAVE NOW APPARENTLY SUCCESSFULLY FACED THE
KHMER DOWN ON THIS MATTER. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY SEVERAL
SOURCES THAT FIVE FRENCH RESIDENTS OF PHNOM PENH APPLIED RE-
CENTLY FOR EXIT VISAS AND WERE ASKED TO PAY THE OFFICIAL FEE OF
150,000 RIELS EACH. THE FRENCH EMBASSY, HAVING URGED
THEM TO LEAVE IN THE FIRST PLACE, INTERVENED ON THEIR
BEHALF BUT WERE TURNED DOWN.

3. THE FRENCH THEN RETALIATED BY REFUSING TO ISSUE AN
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OFFICIAL VISA TO A KHMER DIPLOMAT ASSIGNED TO PARIS UN-

TIL THE 150,000 RIEL FEE WAS WAIVED FOR THEIR NATIONALS.
THE GKR, ACCORDING TO OUR INFORMATION, ULTIMATELY AC-
QUIESCED.

4. THE GKR IS FACED WITH A DILEMMA IN TRYING TO DRAFT
REGULATIONS THAT WILL APPLY TO SOME FOREIGN RESI-
DENTS AND NOT TO OTHERS. DOUBTLESS A PRAGMATIC, IF NOT
ENTIRELY CONSISTENT, SOLUTION WILL BE FOUND.
DEAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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TAGS: PGOV, PINT, CB, FR
To: STATE
Type: TE
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